

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**November 3, 2011**

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The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 pm in the Community Room of the North Haven Memorial Library, 17 Elm Street, North Haven, CT.

### **Members Present**

First Selectman, Michael J. Freda  
Second Selectman, Timothy M. Doheny  
Third Selectman, Stephen A. Fontana

Mr. Freda introduced himself and Selectmen Doheny and Fontana, and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Public Comments relative to the agenda** - none

**Approval of Minutes** - Mr. Doheny motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting of October 6, 2011

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

**Correspondence** – none

**Presentation by the Children's Resource Guide Committee** - Mr. Freda stated that we have a presentation this evening by the Children's Resource Guide Committee. Mr. Freda explained that this is a project that the committee has been working on and commended the committee for creating such a wonderful vehicle for families in North Haven. He introduced Lauren Montano and Claudia Grantham. Claudia stated that the idea for the resource guide came out of the Community Conversation of 2009 on the subject of the future of our community, our children and why the early years matter. The focus was on preparing our children for school at age five and what came out of that was that we have an abundance of resources available for our youngest population. A committee was formed to put together a guide for young families which contains a vast array of information and resources. Mr. Fontana asked if the guide would be available on line because he feels it would be advantageous to do so. He also asked about the maintenance of keeping the information current. Mr. Freda felt we could work towards that objective. Linda Jacobson, also on the committee, stated that the guide has been very helpful to new parents looking for day care and resources and they have put it into practice and it worked beautifully. Mr. Freda thanked the committee again.

### **Selectman's Overview -**

Mr. Freda started his presentation by thanking Third Selectman, Steve Fontana for his service to the Board. He commented that he felt they worked collaboratively together and enjoy a good relationship overall. He thanked him for all his service over the many years that Steve served the Town. He stated that he enjoyed working with him and on behalf of himself, Tim Doheny, and the Town of North Haven he thanked him and wished him the best of luck on all his future endeavors. Mr. Freda continued with his overview.

### **Operational**

Storm Alfred

- Power Outages

- North Haven had a total of 23% of our homes out at the peak and that number was declining every day until we were fully restored
  - The UI reacted here very quickly
- There are still over 400,000 homes without power across the state and to give you some additional perspective about this storm devastation....
- Current Town Outages
  - Bethany- 64% of the town's residents
  - Cheshire- 30% of the town's residents
  - Farmington- 96% of the town's residents
  - Meriden- 62% of the town's residents
  - Simsbury- 84% of the town's residents
  - West Hartford – 88% of the town's residents
- The Town Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments worked with the State EOC beginning on Saturday afternoon.
- Announcements were made using the reverse 911 advising residents that shelter for those without power was available at the North Haven Senior Center beginning at 6 pm.
  - We would like to try to enhance the system by adding those residents who would like their cell phones added
  - Important to consider should you have no answering machine
  - Important to consider should you have lost phone service during the storm
  - You will need to “opt in” by going to [www.ct.gov/ctalert](http://www.ct.gov/ctalert) and follow the prompts
  - We will be adding the link to the Town website
- The Dept. of Public Works assisted the UI with tree removal and its power restoration efforts. Disposal efforts continue as the DPW remains in a storm response mode addressing downed branches, and trees which had once blocked roadways.
- Storm debris disposal:
  - Town Transfer Station (no passes are needed for the next 2 weeks)
  - Curbside pick-up (along with Fall Leaf Collection)
  - Residents are asked that if they do place brush by the curb that it NOT be placed in the roadway and that is be separate from the loose or bagged leaves for Fall collection.
  - Target date for completion is December 16<sup>th</sup>. (Weather permitting)
- 2011 Fall Leaf Collection Program
  - DPW will commence leaf program on November 7<sup>th</sup> and continue for four to six weeks (weather permitting).
  - Residents are asked to read the local papers, check the Town's website, or stop by any of the Town's buildings for schedule.
  - Reminder: leaves may be bagged or left loose and placed at the curbside, NOT in the roadway itself.

#### Grant Updates

- Greater New Haven Transit Bus Shelter Grant
  - The Town received a grant from the Greater New Haven Transit District (GNHTD) for the installation of a bus shelter which will be installed on Universal Drive in front of the Staples Plaza.
- ADA Grant
  - The Town received confirmation of the award for an ADA Grant in the amount of \$750,000 for the purpose modifying Town Hall to be ADA compliant with installation of an elevator. Our Grant was the largest awarded in the state.

#### Economic Development

- New Tenant in Former Stop and Shop Offices on Washington Avenue - Ulbrich Steel
  - They will be moving their world wide headquarters to this location
  - Also, they will be adding \$3M worth of capital upgrades to their existing location on Dodge Avenue. We will be looking to populate their existing office with another tenant
- Post Office Update

- No changes in services to us in North Haven
- Next year, we may actually have more postal business in North Haven
- Post Master position may not be replaced
- We will still work with them for a new location- and have their commitment
- Yale New Haven Hospital Update
  - Yale New Haven Hospital decision by the Office of Health Care Access to deny CON
  - Yale will be re-applying to the OHCA
  - Adjacent Medical Project Moving forward on Devine Street
- Show and Sell
  - October 15, 2011 at the North Haven High School
  - 97 Registered Vendors/Community Groups
    - Thank you to our business sponsors for their support
      - Forget Me Not Florist
      - Ciulla & Donofrio
      - Under Construction Contractors
      - Non-Tox Pest Management Services
      - Petro
      - Sunny Side Up Early Learning Center
      - Cloudland Paintworks
      - College4Less
      - H.H. Perkins Co
- Residents Suggestions For Future Updates
  - Jim Leahy – Roles of Boards and Commission
  - Raymond Fowler- Jurisdictions in North Haven of town authority as it relates to roads, banners, water lines, gas and utilities

Mr. Doheny read the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** The Town of North Haven authorize and sign a contract with Central Auto Auction to dispose of surplus Department of Public Works equipment and police department vehicle at a cost of \$195.00 per item sold. All revenue received will return to the Town of North Haven's General Fund. At present there are three (3) pieces of equipment leaving the Public Works fleet and are available for auction, including a 1994 Peterbuilt packer truck, 1989 Johnson FMC Street Sweeper, and a 1987 Chevrolet Pick-up truck (parts only). First Selectman Michael J. Freda and Director of Public Works, Lynn K. Sadosky have set a reserve of \$5,000 for the equipment. There is one (1) police cruiser leaving the fleet and available for auction. First Selectman Freda and Police Chief McLoughlin have set a reserve of \$3,500 for the vehicle.

Mr. Doheny motioned to approve the Resolution as presented.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

**Resignations and Appointments** – There were no resignations or appointments. Mr. Doheny stated that we have had an opening on the Cemetery Commission, and anyone interested should send in a resume to the Selectman's office or contact Valerie. He also stated that we recently passed the Blight Ordinance and that calls for a three member Blight Prevention Appeals Board. He has been in contact with several people and he understands that Valerie also has a resume that came in. He noted that anyone interested in serving on this board should send their letter of interest and resume to the Selectman's Office.

#### **Bond Releases / Reductions –**

- 63 & 67 Laydon Avenue, Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC, release the entire bond balance of \$5,000.00 with the recommendation of the Inland Wetlands Commission.

- 26 Legrand Road, Evelyn Sibley, release the entire bond balance of \$2,500.00 with the recommendation of the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Mr. Doheny motioned to accept the bond releases as presented.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

### **Property Tax Refunds –**

- ARI Fleet, 9000 Midlantic Drive, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054-1539, in the amount of \$184.45
- Barham, Celeste, 60 Brockett Farm Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$26.06
- Burland, William or Burland, Mary, 32 Country Way, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$6.11
- DCFS Trust, Box 685, Roanoke, TX 76262, in the amount of \$419.47
- Hedden, John L, 104 Spring Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$33.92
- Holovach, Joseph and Michele, 7 Edison Drive, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$72.12
- Honda Lease Trust, 600 Kelly Way, Holoyoke, MA 01040-9681, in the amount of \$424.48, and in the amount of \$118.61, and in the amount of \$59.26, and in the amount of \$43.44
- Nissan Infiniti LT, PO Box 650214, Dallas, TX 75265-0214, in the amount of \$254.63, and in the amount of \$232.44
- Ryder Truck Rental Inc, 99 Murphy Road, Hartford, CT 06114-2104, in the amount of \$144.65
- Thomas, James, 43 Butler Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$19.88
- Toyota Motor Credit Corp, Box 105386 Atlanta, GA 30348, in the amount of \$50.74, and in the amount of \$147.48, and in the amount of \$79.62, and in the amount of \$54.01

Mr. Doheny motioned to accept the property tax refunds as presented.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

Mr. Freda stated that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on Thursday, December 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the community room of the North Haven Memorial Library, 17 Elm Street, North Haven, CT.

### **Public Comment –**

Mr. Raymond Fowler, Todd Drive, made a very sincere presentation to Third Selectman Steve Fontana thanking him for his service to the Town of North Haven. He presented him with an eagle statue to express his appreciation. Mr. Fontana thanked Mr. Fowler.

Mr. Fowler then went on to remind everyone that Tuesday is election day and it is important for everyone to get out and vote. He fought in countries where people give their life for the right to vote and can't stress enough the importance of this basic right that we enjoy as Americans.

Linda Currie-Zeffiro, Hartley Street, thanked Mr. Victor Palma for all he has done with regard to the trees and the clean up after the storm.

Charles Wicklein, Hartford Turnpike, asked Mr. Fontana how much he increased ECS funding when he was our state representative. Mr. Fontana responded it doubled.

Mr. Wicklein stated that he researched the subject he brought up last month regarding pensions for convicted felons. He feels if you work for the Town and are convicted of a felony you should not be allowed to receive your pension. He asked several sources including States Attorney David Channing, Mr. Errante of Lynch, Traub, Keefe and Errante Law Firm, and a professor at Yale Law School and they all felt that it was possible to retroactively strip

someone of their pension. Mr. Wicklein asked Mr. Freda where he stands on the issue, and Mr. Freda responded he is in agreement, however he can't comment any further on contractual negotiations.

Mr. Freda asked for additional questions and seeing and hearing none, Mr. Fontana then addressed the public. He thanked Mr. Freda, Mr. Doheny and the former First Selectman Ms. McCarty, he stated it has been his honor to serve and he has appreciated the courtesy and collaborative working relationship. He also thanked Mr. Fowler again for his gift and kind words. He then stated that in response to storm Alfred, the governor has signed an executive order allowing anyone who has not yet registered to vote to register by Monday, November 7 by noon, provided you come into Town Hall and give your paperwork to either the registrars or Town Clerk.

Mr. Freda thanked everyone for attending and also stated it has been his pleasure for the last 24 months to participate in the Selectmen's meetings and it is his hope to be able to continue.

**Adjournment** – Mr. Doheny motioned to adjourn at 8:50 pm.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes